

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's submission, filed 12 February 2010, has been entered and acknowledged by the examiner.

Applicant's arguments, filed 12 February 2010, with respect to the rejections of the claims have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of the claims have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6,47-63 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not disclose nor render obvious, in addition to the other limitations of the claims, an electron emission device having an emission layer containing groups of metal particles whose diameter is smaller than the average film thickness and which are separated by a distance less than 5nm, the groups being separated by a distance greater than the film thickness, and the layer containing as a main component a material having a higher resistivity than that of the particles. Claim 6 is therefore allowed. Claims 47-63 are allowed as a result of their dependence upon claim 6.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTOPHER M. RAABE whose telephone number is (571)272-8434.

The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 7am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on 571-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/NIMESHKUMAR D. PATEL/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2879